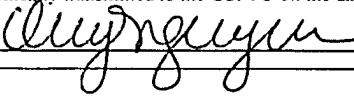


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: February 15, 2008

Signature: 

(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/612,170

Confirmation No.: 5203

Filing Date: July 1, 2003

Inventor(s): Vahid SAADAT et al.

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GASTRIC REDUCTION

Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza

Group Art Unit: 3734

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action dated November 21, 2007, for which a response is due on February 21, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

This Amendment is intended to comply with the requirements of the Office Action and to place the application in condition for allowance, as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and MPEP § 714.12. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.